

DD/M&S 74-1333

18 APR 1974

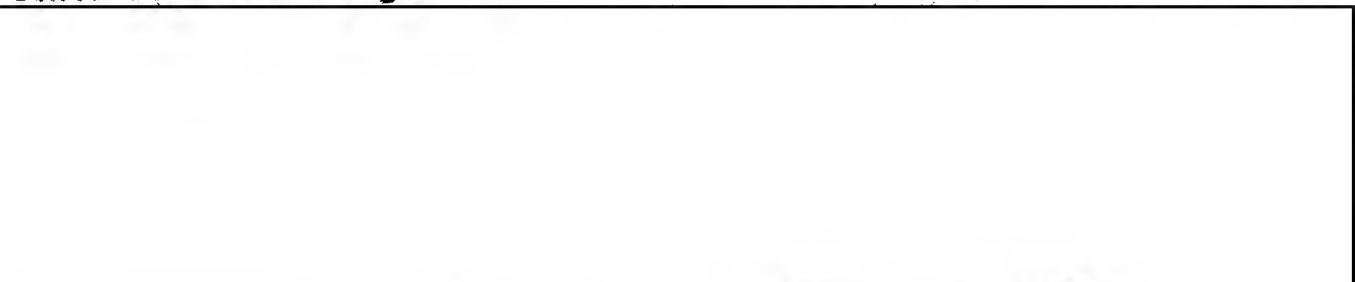
MEMORANDUM FOR: Legislative Counsel

SUBJECT : Request by OMB for Agency Comments on  
Proposed Legislation by the Secretary  
of Defense

1. Reference is made to your memorandum of 8 April 1974, which requested comments on proposed legislation by the Secretary of Defense which would give him authority to terminate employees of DIA and NSA in the same manner that the DCI has the authority in this Agency under the National Security Act of 1947.

2. Attached herewith are the comments of the Directors of Personnel and Security, who have registered no strong objections to your proposed letter from the Director to OMB. Mr. Fred Janney has, however, focused some attention on the possibility that the Department of Defense proposal will put the Congressional spotlight on the DCI's 102c authority, possibly to our own detriment. You are obviously in a better position to assess the Congressional weather, but I very much share Mr. Janney's concern that the 1974 DOD legislative maneuvering might not only be unsuccessful in the temper of our times, but could result in the loss of DCI authority acquired in 1947. You also can best judge the capabilities of DOD in the area of Congressional relations.

3. I can well realize that this places the DCI in something of a predicament at a time when he is stressing his responsibilities in the Intelligence Community, but I would suggest that the letter to OMB be softened to some extent. On this point I recommend that the language be changed from one of "support" to a more neutral position--that we can "appreciate the DOD problem" or "the DOD presents some valid arguments."



HAROLD L. BROWMAN  
Deputy Director  
for

Management and Services

Atts

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